

Message Text

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ACTION AF-04

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FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5836

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L NAIROBI 9321

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, KE, TZ

SUBJECT: KENYAN/TANZANIAN RELATIONS

REF: DAR ES SALAAM 4824

1. WE WERE QUITE FRANKLY SURPRISED TO READ IN REFTEL THAT TANZANIAN GOVERNMENT REPORTEDLY HAS SUCH PESSIMISTIC ASSESSMENT OF KENYAN POLITICAL SITUATION AS TO ANTICIPATE "INFLUX OF REFUGEES" FROM KENYA INTO TANZANIA WHEN CONDITIONS HERE BEGIN TO "FRIGHTEN POPULACE". THIS HIGHLY QUESTIONABLE ANALYSIS OF SITUATION IN KENYA APPEARS TO BE BUT ONE MORE EXAMPLE OF INCREASINGLY FREQUENT MISJUDGEMENTS OF EACH OTHER BY THESE TWO COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE WORSENERED THEIR BILATERAL RELATIONS IN RECENT TIMES.

2. NEXT WEEK WE PLAN TO PREPARE TELEGRAPHIC UPDATE OF CURRENT INTERNAL POLITICAL SITUATION AND OUTLOOK IN KENYA TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION SUCH RECENT DEVELOPMENTS AS KENYATTA'S DETENTION OF TWO PROMINENT MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT. IN MEANTIME, WE WILL CONFINE OURSELVES TO SAYING THAT LEADERSHIP TRANSITION PERIOD AFTER KENYATTA GOES MAY BE ACCOMPANIED BY SOME UNCERTAINTIES AND EVEN UNREST; HOWEVER, WE CONSIDER IT HIGHLY UNLIKELY THAT SITUATION WOULD DEGENERATE TO POINT WHERE MANY

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KENYANS WOULD CONSIDER TAKING REFUGE IN TANZANIA, A

COUNTRY WHOSE ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL SYSTEM IS OPENLY
AND WIDELY CRITICIZED BY KENYANS FROM ALL ECONOMIC
STRATA.
MARSHALL

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NNN

Message Attributes

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